

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A steering device comprising a cooling device arranged therein, the cooling device comprising at least one heat pipe including at least one heat-absorbing area and at least one heat-emitting area, the at least one heat-absorbing area being located in a grip region
5 of the steering device.
2. A steering device according to claim 1 wherein the heat-emitting area is located away from the grip region of the steering device.
3. A steering device according to claim 1 wherein the
10 steering device is a vehicle steering wheel including a circumferential grip region and a center region connected to the grip region by at least one spoke, and wherein the heat-emitting area is located in the center region of the steering wheel.
4. A steering device according to claim 3 wherein the
15 heat-absorbing area is located within a circumferential annular groove formed in the grip region.
5. A steering device according to claim 3 wherein the heat-emitting area is located to be in an air stream of a vehicle vent.
6. A steering device according to claim 1 comprising at
20 least one Peltier element arranged proximate the heat-emitting area of the cooling device.
7. A steering device according to claim 1 comprising at least one fan arranged proximate the heat-emitting area of the cooling device.

8. A steering device according to claim 7 comprising at least one fan arranged proximate the heat-emitting area of the cooling device directed toward a heat-emitting region of the Peltier element or the heat-emitting area of the cooling device.
- 5 9. A steering device according to claim 1 comprising at least one fan located remotely from the grip region and directed toward the heat-emitting area of the cooling device.
- 10 10. A steering device according to claim 9 comprising at least one Peltier element located remotely from the grip region, and wherein at least part of the Peltier element is arranged in the airflow of the fan.
11. A steering device according to claim 1 wherein the grip region comprises a jacket having high thermal conductivity to convey heat to the heat-absorbing area of the cooling device.
- 15 12. A steering device according to claim 11 comprising a cover surrounding the jacket.
- 20 13. A steering device according to claim 11 wherein at least part of the jacket includes metal powder, fibers or a thermally conductive paste proximate the heat-absorbing area of the cooling device.
14. A steering device according to claim 1 wherein the heat pipe houses a fluid having an evaporation temperature between 25° C and 60° C.

15. A steering wheel comprising:
a toroidal grip portion comprising a rigid core surrounded
by a jacket;
a center portion connected to the grip portion by at least
5 one spoke; and
a cooling device comprising a heat pipe including a heat-
absorbing area arranged in at least part of the grip portion and a heat-
emitting area arranged in at least part of the center portion.
16. A steering wheel according to claim 15 wherein the
10 heat-absorbing area is located within a circumferential groove formed in
the jacket of the grip region.
17. A steering wheel according to claim 15 wherein the
heat pipe comprises a closed tube having a transport device lining at
least a portion of the inner tube wall and defining a fluid volume in the
15 heat-absorbing area and a fluid and gas-exchange volume in the heat-
emitting area of the cooling device.
18. A steering wheel according to claim 16 wherein the
jacket includes metal powder, fibers or a thermally conductive paste
proximate the heat-absorbing area of the cooling device.
- 20 19. A steering wheel according to claim 15 comprising
at least one Peltier element arranged proximate the heat-emitting area of
the cooling device.
20. A steering device according to claim 15 comprising
at least one fan arranged proximate the heat-emitting area of the cooling
25 device.